TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 14, 2005 LB 242

the member, then they too can feel comfortable following the member's directions in that regard.

SENATOR JENSEN: But only as directed by the member of the Legislature.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR JENSEN: Okay. I think that will answer my questions. I appreciate that. I'll return the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Stuhr, on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I, too, have a question, Senator Beutler, on number...the...where it's designated number (9), when it talks about that this section does not prohibit an employee of the Legislature from using public resources for researching or campaigning. Now, I have a question. I'm just not comfortable with that when it appears that they can use public resources then for researching and campaigning, whereas I don't believe that a senator can use the public resources.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR STUHR: Can you explain that to me?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, Senator, the...it's not an all or nothing statement. I mean, the previous law and the law that we're changing and making does, in fact, allow senators to use public resources to a very limited extent, as defined in the bill, with respect to a ballot question.

SENATOR STUHR: Uh-huh.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And so if you put out a press release, for example, and your staff prepares the press release with regard to a ballot question, that may be a public resource of sorts but that, for purposes of this bill, is being considered, de facto,